C. SUICIDE

As with stigmatized groups generally, it is to be expected that suicide rates would be higher among male homosexuals and lesbians than among the population at large. Owing in part to the fact that the details are often not adequately recorded, it has been difficult to obtain adequate data on the specific character of gay suicide, despite the belief that homosexuals are prone to end their own lives because of the intolerable burdens that society imposes on them.


In this study of literature and suicide, see pp. 91-146 on the novelist Klaus Mann, who killed himself in 1949.

Review of male and female homosexuals who have attempted or actually committed suicide, followed by a critique of contemporary social pressures that aggravate the problem.

On apparently accidental deaths that are caused by asphyxiation for sexual stimulation; includes several homosexual cases. See also: N. L. Reznik, "Eroticized Repetitive Hangings: A Form of Self-Destructive Behavior," American Journal of Psychotherapy, 26 (1972), 4-21.

This psychoanalytical work contains a chapter "Suicide and Male Homosexuality." See also his: "Black Suicide," Archives of General Psychiatry, 21 (1969), 407-22.

Sympathetic study focusing attention on an important problem of gay self-oppression, discussing interactions with blackmail--real or feared--and alcoholism. Contends that social stigmatization places an added burden on the normal stresses of everyday life.

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